

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. An apparatus, comprising:

an intermediate application server component that provides one or more
5 services to one or more telephony devices on a call through employment of one or
more data streams associated with the call.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the intermediate application server
component and one or more user-related application server components establish the
one or more data streams;

10 wherein the intermediate application server component provides the one or
more services to the one or more user-related application server components through
employment of the one or more data streams.

3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the one or more user-related application server components cooperate with the one or more telephony devices to establish one or more web portals that are employable by the intermediate application server component and the one or more user-related application server components to
5 provide the one or more services to the one or more telephony devices.

4. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the intermediate application server component and the one or more user-related application server components provide one or more interfaces associated with the one or more services to the one or more telephony devices through employment of the one or more web portals for
10 employment by the one or more telephony devices in interaction with the one or more services.

5. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the intermediate application server component cooperates with the one or more telephony devices to establish the call;
wherein the intermediate application server component alters the call based on
15 the interaction with the one or more services.

6. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the intermediate application server component alters one or more of the one or more interfaces based on the employment of the one or more services;
wherein the intermediate application server component and the one or more
20 user-related application server components cooperate to update the one or more of the one or more interfaces through employment of the one or more data streams.

7. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the one or more telephony devices comprise a first telephony device and a second telephony device, wherein the intermediate application server component and the one or more user-related application server components cooperate to provide a first one or more interfaces to the first telephony device and a second one or more interfaces to the second telephony device;

wherein the intermediate application server component allows the first telephony device to interact with one or more of the one or more services through employment of the first one or more interfaces;

10 wherein the intermediate application server component automatically updates one or more of the second one or more interfaces based on the first telephony device based on the one or more of the one or more services.

8. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the one or more of the first one or more interfaces comprise a first one or more of the first one or more interfaces, wherein the intermediate application server component and the one or more user-related application server components update a second one or more the first one or more interfaces based on the one or more of the one or more services.

9. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the one or more interfaces comprise one or more graphical user interfaces;

20 wherein the intermediate application server component and the one or more user-related application server components provide the one or more graphical user interfaces that are employable by the one or more telephony devices.

10. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the intermediate application server component employ the eXtended Markup Language (XML) to provide the one or more graphical user interfaces.

11. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the intermediate application server
5 component and the one or more user-related application server component employ the HyperText Transport Protocol (HTTP) to provide the one or more web portals to the one or more telephony devices.

12. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:
an intermediate switch component;
10 wherein the intermediate switch component and the one or more telephony devices cooperate to establish the call;
wherein the intermediate switch component communicates with the intermediate application server component to establish the one or more data streams associated with the call.

13. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the intermediate switch component
15 maintains one or more voice portions of the call;
wherein the intermediate application server component associates the one or more services with the call;
wherein the intermediate application server component communicates with the
20 intermediate switch component to update one or more of the one or more voice portions of the call based on the one or more services.

14. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the intermediate application server component provides one or more control interfaces associated with the one or more services;

wherein the intermediate application server component provides the one or
5 more control interfaces to the one or more telephony devices for employment by the one or more telephony devices in interaction with the one or more services.

15. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the call comprises a conference call, wherein the intermediate switch component comprises a conference bridge component, wherein the one or more telephony devices comprise a first telephony
10 device and a second telephony device, wherein the conference bridge component prohibits an input from the first telephony device on the conference call;

wherein the intermediate application server component provides one or more control interfaces that allow the second telephony device to transmit a request to the intermediate application server component;

15 wherein in response to the request from the second telephony device to the intermediate application server component, the intermediate application server component and the conference bridge component update the conference call to allow the input from the first telephony device on the conference call.

16. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the call comprises a pre-paid call, wherein the intermediate switch component comprises a pre-paid service component, wherein a telephony device of the one or more telephony devices establishes the pre-paid call with the pre-paid service component;

5 wherein the intermediate application server component provides one or more control interfaces that allow the telephony device to transmit a first request to the intermediate application server component, wherein the first request initiates a first call;

wherein in response to the first request from the telephony device to the
10 intermediate application server component, the intermediate application server component communicates with the pre-paid service component to initiate the first call, wherein the intermediate application server component provides a first one or more of the one or more control interfaces to allow the telephony device to transmit a second request, wherein the second request terminates the first call;

15 wherein in response to the second request from the telephony device to the intermediate application server component, the intermediate application server component communicates with the pre-paid service component to terminate the first call, wherein the intermediate application server component provides a second one or more of the one or more control interfaces to allow the telephony device to transmit a
20 third request, wherein the third request initiates a second call;

wherein in response to the third request from the telephony device to the intermediate application server component, the intermediate application server component communicates with the pre-paid service component to initiate the second call.

17. A method, comprising the step of:

providing, by one or more portions of an intermediate network, one or more services to one or more telephony devices on a call through employment of one or more data streams associated with the call.

5 18. The method of claim 17, wherein the step of providing, by the one or more portions of the intermediate network, the one or more services to the one or more telephony devices on the call through employment of the one or more data streams associated with the call comprises the step of:

providing one or more interfaces associated with the one or more services to
10 the one or more telephony devices through employment of one or more web portals.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the step of providing the one or more interfaces associated with the one or more services to the one or more telephony devices through employment of the one or more web portals comprises the steps of:

providing the one or more interfaces to allow the one or more telephony
15 devices to interact with the one or more services; and

updating the call based on the one or more services through employment of the
one or more data streams.

20. An article, comprising:

one or more computer-readable signal-bearing media;

means in the one or more media for providing, by one or more portions of an
intermediate network, one or more services to one or more telephony devices on a call
5 through employment of one or more data streams associated with the call.

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